

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Brian Dix

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Brian Dix has led "The Commandant's Own" The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps since September 1998. As the Corps' fourth Director since its inception in 1934, Dix has expanded the Corps' extensive repertoire with original music composed specifically for "The Commandant's Own" as a tribute to American heroes. *Ellis Island* commemorates American immigrants; *On the March* honors Marine Corps drill instructors; and *Strong to Save* is dedicated to Marine Corps Medal of Honor recipient Sergeant Darrell S. Cole, "The Fighting Field Music."

In 2004, the Drum & Bugle Corps debuted Dix's inspirational new rendition of *America the Beautiful* as a tribute to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 2d Marines, of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, who fought gallantly during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Dix also has produced five compact disc recordings of "The Commandant's Own," including their first digital recording. He is an active member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) and the Conductors' Guild, and is sought nationally as an arranger and conductor.

During his formative years in New York, Dix studied music and the performing arts entirely through public education. He graduated from Monroe-Woodbury Central High School, Central Valley, New York, in 1978 with a Regents diploma. He has also earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Mansfield University, graduating in 1982. Dix went on to complete his Master of Music degree in conducting from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia in 1996.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Dix enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1983 and graduated from Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA. In 1984, Dix traveled to the Armed Forces School of Music at the Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA, where he graduated with honors. Upon completion of the School of Music he was stationed at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., for duty as a contra-bass bugler for "The Commandant's Own." In 1986, he resumed a teaching career in Monmouth County, New Jersey, while maintaining military service with The Army National Guard as a musician with the 63rd Army Band from Sea Girt. After returning to the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps in 1989, he served in a variety of capacities, including Lower Voice Horn Line Instructor, Music Systems Chief, and Editor of "Off The Line," the newsletter for The "Commandant's Own." After graduating from The Basic School, Quantico, Virginia in 1998 Dix was appointed to Warrant Officer in and assumed his present duties as Executive Officer.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Dix's personal decorations include the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Gold Star for Heroic Achievement, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal and a Navy Certificate of Commendation for his volunteer work with Operation Iraqi Freedom casualties at the National Naval Command Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland.